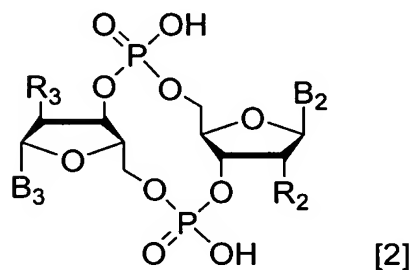


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

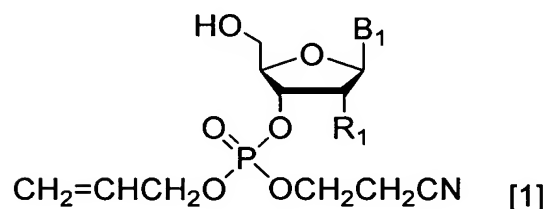
LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for synthesizing a compound represented by Formula [2]:



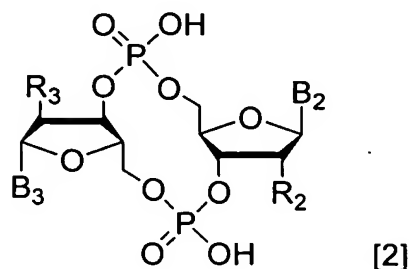
wherein R_2 and R_3 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a hydroxyl group; and B_2 and B_3 each independently represent a nucleic acid base,

or a salt thereof from a compound represented by Formula [1]:



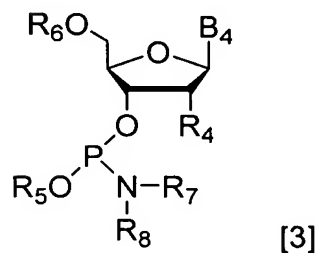
wherein R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protective group; and B_1 represents a nucleic acid base which may be protected, said method comprising preparing a condensation product of the compound represented by Formula [1] and forming the compound of Formula [2] from the condensation product.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for synthesizing a compound represented by Formula [2]:



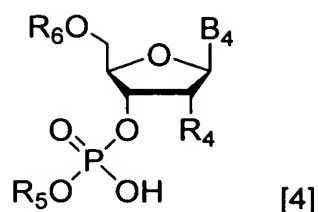
wherein ~~R₂, R₃, B₂ and B₃ have the same meanings as defined for R₂, R₃, B₂ and B₃~~ of Formula [2] in claim 1 above R₂ and R₃ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a hydroxyl group; and B₂ and B₃ each independently represent a nucleic acid base,

or a salt thereof from a compound represented by Formula [3]:



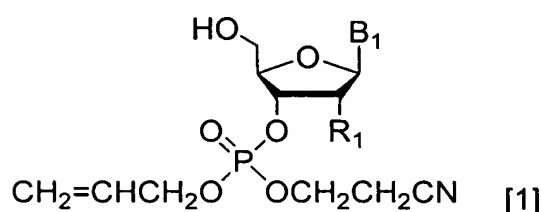
wherein R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protecting group; B₄ represents a nucleic acid base which may be protected; R₅ represents an allyl group or a 2-cyanoethyl group; R₆ represents a hydroxyl protecting group; and R₇ and R₈ each independently represent an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or R₇ and R₈ may be bonded to form a ring containing a nitrogen atom,

or a compound represented by Formula [4]:



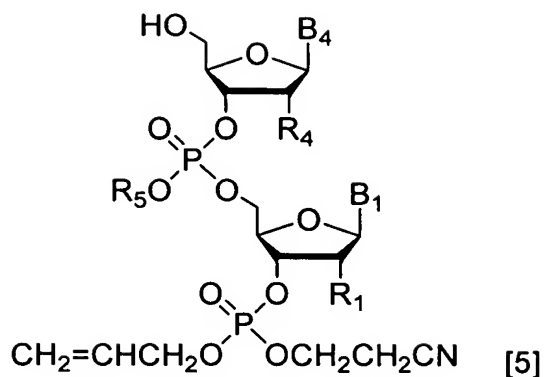
wherein R₄, R₅, R₆ and B₄ have the same meanings as defined for R₄, R₅, R₆ and B₄ of Formula [3] above,

and from a compound represented by Formula [1]:



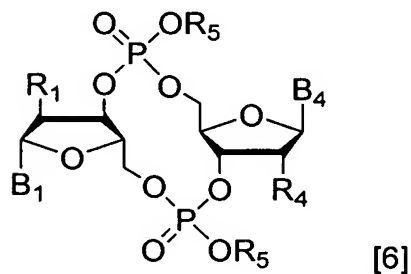
wherein ~~R₄ and B₄ have the same meanings as defined for R₄ and B₄ of Formula [1]~~
~~in claim 1 above~~ R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group,
a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protective
group; and B₁ represents a nucleic acid base which may be protected, said method
comprising preparing a condensation product from the compound of Formula [1] and
the compound of Formula [3], oxidizing the condensation product and preparing the
compound of Formula [2] from the oxidized condensation product or comprising
preparing a condensation product from the compound of Formula [1] and the
compound of Formula [4] and preparing the compound of Formula [2] from the
condensation product.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1 or]] 2, wherein the
compound of Formula [2] is prepared via a [[the]] synthetic intermediate which is a
 compound represented by Formula [5]:



wherein R₁ and R₄ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protecting group; B₁ and B₄ each independently represent a nucleic acid base which may be protected; and R₅ is an allyl group or a 2-cyanoethyl group.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1 or]] 2, wherein the compound of Formula [2] is prepared via a [[the]] synthetic intermediate which is a compound represented by Formula [6]:

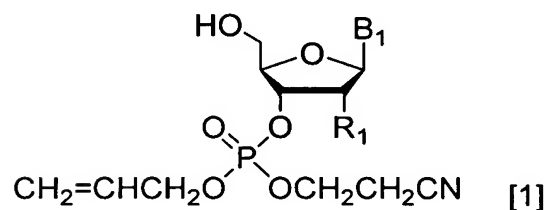


wherein ~~R₁, R₄, R₅, B₁ and B₄ have the same meanings as defined for R₁, R₄, R₅, B₁ and B₄ of Formula [5] in the previous claim~~ R₁ and R₄ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protecting group; B₁ and B₄ each independently represent a nucleic acid base which may be protected; and R₅ is an allyl group or a 2-cyanoethyl group.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein with respect to Formula [1], R_1 is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a t-butyldimethylsilyloxy group; and with respect to Formula [2], R_2 and R_3 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a hydroxyl group.

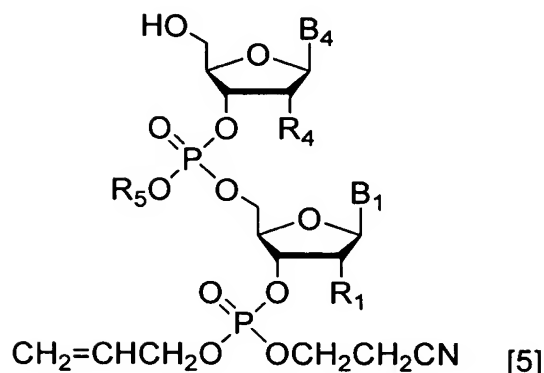
6. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein with respect to Formulas [1], [3] and [4], R_1 and R_4 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a t-butyldimethylsilyloxy group; and with respect to Formula [2], R_2 and R_3 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a hydroxyl group.

7. (Currently Amended) A compound represented by Formula [1]:



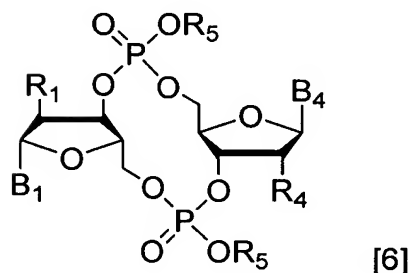
wherein R_1 ~~has the same meaning as defined for R_1 of Formula [1] in claim 1 above~~ represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protective group; and B_1 represents a nucleic acid base which may be protected.

8. (Currently Amended) A compound represented by Formula [5]:



wherein ~~R₁, R₄, R₅, B₁ and B₄~~ have the same meanings as defined for ~~R₁, R₄, R₅, B₁ and B₄~~ of Formula [5] in claim 3 above. R₁ and R₄ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protecting group; B₁ and B₄ each independently represent a nucleic acid base which may be protected; and R₅ is an allyl group or a 2-cyanoethyl group.

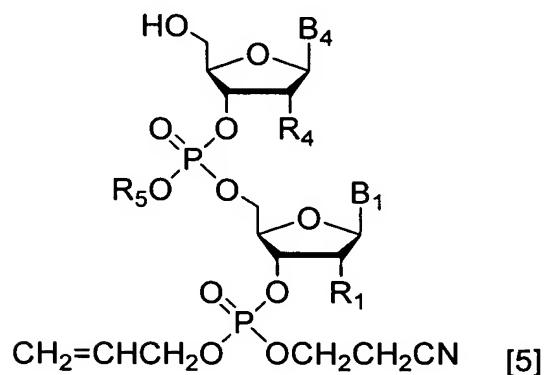
9. (Currently Amended) A compound represented by Formula [6]:



wherein ~~R₁, R₄, R₅, B₁ and B₄~~ have the same meanings as defined for ~~R₁, R₄, R₅, B₁ and B₄~~ of Formula [6] in claim 4 above. R₁ and R₄ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protecting group; B₁ and B₄ each independently represent a nucleic acid base which may be protected; and R₅ is an

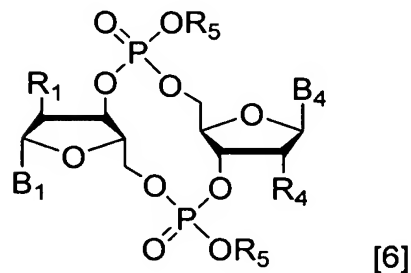
allyl group or a 2-cyanoethyl group.

10. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula [2] is prepared via a synthetic intermediate which is a compound represented by Formula [5]:



wherein R₁ and R₄ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protecting group; B₁ and B₄ each independently represent a nucleic acid base which may be protected; and R₅ is an allyl group or a 2-cyanoethyl group.

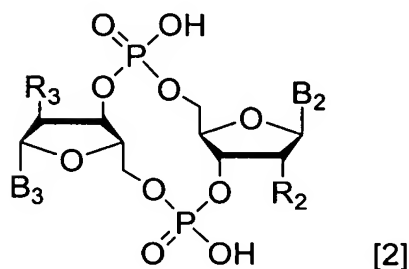
11. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula [2] is prepared via a synthetic intermediate which is a compound represented by Formula [6]:



wherein R₁ and R₄ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom,

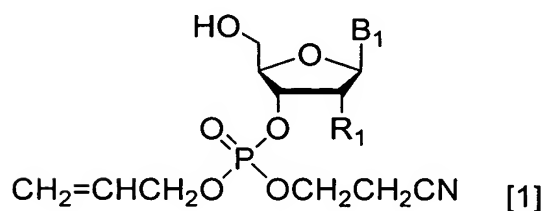
a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protecting group; B₁ and B₄ each independently represent a nucleic acid base which may be protected; and R₅ is an allyl group or a 2-cyanoethyl group.

12. (New) A method for synthesizing a compound represented by Formula [2]:



wherein R₂ and R₃ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a hydroxyl group; and B₂ and B₃ each independently represent a nucleic acid base,

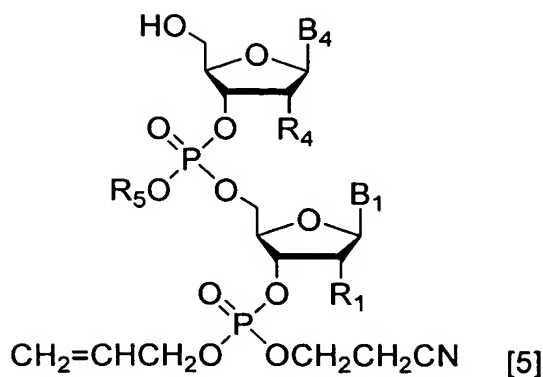
or a salt thereof, from a compound represented by Formula [1]:



wherein R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protective group; and B₁ represents a nucleic acid base which may be protected;

through the following steps (1) to (3):

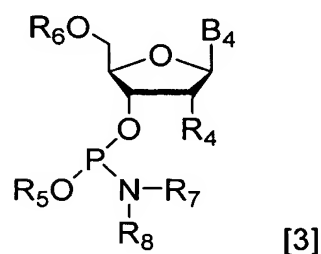
(1) synthesizing a compound represented by Formula [5]:



wherein R_1 and R_4 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protecting group; B_1 and B_4 each independently represent a nucleic acid base which may be protected; and R_5 is an allyl group or a 2-cyanoethyl group;

through the following step (1-1) or (1-2),

(1-1) condensing the compound represented by Formula [1] with a compound represented by Formula [3]:

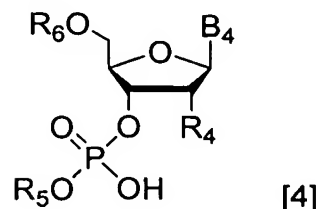


wherein R_4 represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group, or a hydroxyl group substituted with a hydroxyl protecting group; B_4 represents a nucleic acid base which may be protected; R_5 represents an allyl group or a 2-cyanoethyl group; R_6 represents a hydroxyl protecting group; and R_7 and R_8 each independently represent an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or R_7 and R_8 may be bonded to form a ring containing a nitrogen atom,

oxidizing the condensation product, and

removing the R_6 group from the oxidized product,

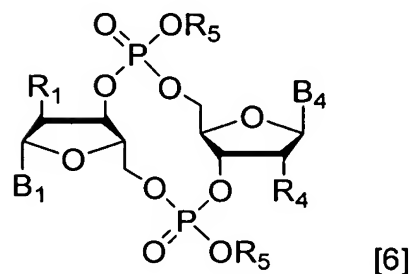
(1-2) condensing the compound represented by Formula [1] with a compound represented by Formula [4]:



wherein R₄, R₅, R₆ and B₄ have the same meanings as defined for R₄, R₅, R₆ and B₄ of Formula [3] above, and

removing the R₆ group from the oxidized product,

(2) synthesizing a compound represented by Formula [6]:



wherein R₁, R₄, R₅, B₁ and B₄ have the same meanings as defined for R₁, R₄, R₅, B₁ and B₄ of Formula [5] above,

from the compound represented by Formula [5] through the following step

(2-1) or (2-2),

(2-1) carrying out a cyclization reaction after removing an allyl group of the compound represented by Formula [5] when R₅ group of the compound represented by Formula [5] is a 2-cyanoethyl group,

(2-2) carrying out a cyclization reaction after removing a 2-cyanoethyl group of the compound represented by Formula [5] when R₅ group of the compound represented by Formula [5] is an allyl group,

(3) removing any protective groups from B₁, B₄, R₁, R₄ and R₅ of the compound represented by Formula [6].

13. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein with respect to Formula [1], R₁ is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a t-butyldimethylsilyloxy group; and with respect to Formula [2], R₂ and R₃ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a hydroxyl group.

14. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein with respect to Formulas [1], [3] and [4] R₁ and R₄ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a t-butyldimethylsilyloxy group; and with respect to Formula [2], R₂ and R₃ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom, a methoxy group, a 2-methoxyethoxy group or a hydroxyl group.